In the Claims:

Please amend claims 13, 26-30, 32, 33, 35 and 36. The status of the claims is as follows:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:

means for determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited;

a notification device notifying, when a failure occurs in a system and use of a failed device is prohibited, a device control unit that performs control over the failed device, of a the prohibition of use of the failed device by enabling the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device,

the device control unit recognizing the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

14. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said notification device includes a pseudo-interrupt issuance device making the device control unit access the failed device by issuing a pseudo-interrupt to the device control unit and calling up an interrupt process of the device control unit.

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15. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said notification device includes an access instruction issuance device making the device control unit access the failed device by issuing an access instruction to the device control unit and calling up an access process of the device control unit.

16. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a notification judgment device judging whether the device control unit should be notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device.

17. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device group included in the system.

18. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device control unit that performs control over a device included in the system.

19. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit

should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device included in the system.

20.   (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a setting device setting information about whether the device control unit should be notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device, and outputs a judgment result corresponding to the set information.

21.   (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device group included in the system.

22.   (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device control unit that performs control over a device included in the system.

23.   (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device included in the system.

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24.   (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a confirmation device checking whether another device in the system is affected by the failed device, said system prohibiting use of a device affected by the failed device and said notification judgment device judging whether a device control unit that performs control over the affected device should be notified of the prohibition of use of the affected device.

25.   (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a confirmation device checking whether another device in the system is affected by the failed device.

26.   (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:

a first system including a confirmation device for determining, when a failure occurs in a device in the first system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the first system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,

a notification device for changing, ~~when a failure occurs in an open system and use of a failed device is prohibited, the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device,~~ a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use, to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize a prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices.

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27.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which a program is recorded, said program comprising:

determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited;

enabling a computer to perform notifying, when a failure occurs in a system and use of a failed device is prohibited, a device control unit that performs control over the failed device of a the prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device,

the device control unit recognizing the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

28.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which a program is recorded, said program comprising:

determining, when a failure occurs in a device in one system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,

enabling a computer to perform changing, when a failure occurs in an open system and use of a failed device is prohibited, the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device, a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use in the one

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first system to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize a prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices.

29.   (Currently Amended) A notification method, comprising:

determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited;

prohibiting use of a-the failed device when a failure occurs in a system; and

notifying a device control unit that performs control over the failed device, of the prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device,

the device control unit recognizing the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

30.   (Currently Amended) A notification method, comprising:

prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs in one system of an open system; and

determining whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device, and

changing a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices,

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device.

31.. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:

means for determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited;

prohibition means for prohibiting use of a the failed device when a failure occurs in a system; and

notification means for notifying a device control unit that performs control over the failed device of the prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit to attempt to access the failed device,

the device control unit recognizing the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

33. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:

prohibition means for prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs in an open one system; and

determining whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device, and

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notification means for changing a state of the failed device <u>and any other</u>

<u>devices that are determined to be prohibited from use</u> in <u>the</u> one system to a state where

another system related to the failed device can recognize the prohibition of use of the failed

device <u>and the other devices</u>,

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display,

a communication adapter, and a storage device.

34.   (Canceled)

35.   (Currently Amended)   A transmission medium for transmitting to a

computer a program, said program comprising:

<u>determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is</u>

<u>prohibited;</u>

enabling the computer to perform notifying, ~~when a failure occurs in a system~~

~~and use of a failed device is prohibited,~~ a device control unit that performs control over a

failed device, of ~~a~~<u>the</u> prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control

unit to attempt to access the failed device,

the device control unit recognizing the prohibition of use of the failed device if

the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

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36.   (Currently Amended) A transmission medium for transmitting to a computer a program, said program comprising:

determining, when a failure occurs in a device in one system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,

enabling the computer to perform changing, ~~when a failure occurs in an open system and use of a failed device is prohibited,~~ a state of the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use in the one system to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize a prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices,

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device.